



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Park Commissioners  
FROM: Pamela Kliment, Planner  
DATE: September 24, 2015  
SUBJECT: Denny Park Sportcourt Project

### **Requested Board Action**

No action requested; this briefing is an early check-in prior to the public involvement process. The Board will be asked to make a recommendation on the project after the public review is completed.

### **Project Description and Background**

Denny Park is located at the corner of Dexter Avenue and John Street in the South Lake Union neighborhood. The Park currently consists of Seattle Parks and Recreation's administration building, a large open area with a variety of trees, a play area, a labyrinth and a temporary Off Leash Area (OLA). Denny Park has a beaux-arts neoclassical plan, with a formal symmetrical arrangement including four major diagonal paths radiating from a central paved and landscaped center.

The scope of the project, proposed by Vulcan, Inc., is to add a sportcourt to Denny Park. A sportcourt provides opportunities for soccer like play in addition to basketball. The hard surface will also allow for additional activities, such as yoga, tai chi and other exercise programs. It would replace the basketball court located across 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue that will be demolished with future development by Vulcan Inc.

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) and Vulcan discussed the idea of adding a sportcourt to Denny Park and, to this end, SPR provided information detailing a planning and public involvement process for the project (attached). This requires Vulcan Inc to perform targeted outreach, hire a landscape architect to prepare a site analysis for sportcourt location options and hire a professional arborist to conduct a tree assessment.

SiteWorkshop Landscape Architects completed a location study (attached). Included in the study are many photos of sportcourts. The initial locations proposed were in the existing OLA area, when it is closes in 2018, (option #1), along the NE diagonal just south of the play area (option#2), and on the eastern edge of Denny Park along 9<sup>th</sup> across from the existing court, (option#3)

These options were presented to SPR's internal review committee and options #1 and #3 were selected as potential future sites. Criteria included impacts on existing trees, grading

requirements, ease of conformance with ADA (Americans with Disability Act) and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), impact on existing infrastructure such as irrigation and potential size of the sportcourt.

Vulcan will take the lead in the public process, hosting and running the meetings, doing most of the public outreach. SPR will support the project and attend the meetings, making sure project ideas are reviewed internally and providing other types of support as necessary to make sure the project conforms to applicable policies and procedures.

### **Public Involvement Process**

A formal public involvement process has not yet started. Vulcan has met with key stakeholders and performed other activities to get a feedback for the project idea.

### **Budget**

If the project is approved, Vulcan will provide all funding.

### **Schedule**

The schedule is being developed.

### **Additional Information**

Pamela Kliment, Parks Neighborhood Matching Fund Planner, 684-7556

[Pamela.Kliment@seattle.gov](mailto:Pamela.Kliment@seattle.gov)

### **Attachments**

1. Parks Planning/Public Involvement Process
2. Consultant (SiteWorkshop) location study